

Please amend claim 6 as follows:

- Q²*
6. (once amended) The method of [any of claims 1 to 5]claim 1 wherein the hyperpolarised ^{129}Xe is enriched at a level of 40% or more.
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Please amend claim 7 as follows:

- Q³*
7. (once amended) The method of [any of claims 1 to 6]claim 1 wherein the degree of hyperpolarisation is 8% or more.
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Please amend claim 8 as follows:

- Q⁴*
8. (once amended) The method of [any of claims 1 to 7]claim 1 which is performed in a solution wherein the solvent has a viscosity in the range of 700 to 1500 mPs.
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Please amend claim 9 as follows:

- Q⁵*
9. (once amended) The method of [any of claims 1 to 8]claim 1 wherein the pressure of the xenon gas is at least 5 bar.
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